



M E M O R A N D U M
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION AUDITOR

TO: The Honorable Rebeca Sosa,
Commissioner, District 6

DATE: December 8, 2004

FROM: Charles Anderson, CPA
Commission Auditor

SUBJECT: Cuban and Haitian
Refugee Crime and
Victimization Initiative
Program

On November 10, 2004, the Economic Development & Human Services Committee deferred item 4(A), "Amendment to Lease Agreement at 7900 N.E. 2 Avenue, Miami for Department of Human Services, Cuban and Haitian Refugee Crime and Victimization Initiative Program." The Committee was concerned with the reduction of space at the Little Haiti Office, the closure of the Hialeah Office, and the change in focus from "Cuban and Haitian Refugee Crime and Victimization Initiative Program" to "Haitian Youth Program." A deferral of the item was requested until the Committee's next meeting.

The purpose of this Amendment is to decrease leased square footage from 4,520 to 3,439 square feet by deleting Room 501 and to decrease annual rental from \$70,059.96 to \$53,304.50, due to the reduction in square footage. The square footage reduced is being used for administrative purposes and will be redistributed within existing space at the same location; direct services will not be affected by this reduction in space.

The justification is that funding received from the State of Florida Department of Children and Families, Refugee Services through Contact No. LK543 has been reduced by \$278,000 from \$1,553,000 to \$1,275,000. The reduction in annual rent will decrease cost by \$16,755.46 and has already been included in the budget starting January 1, 2005. The reduced funding will also result in a reduction of ten (10) positions in the program.

Further study and analysis is required to determine if the Department is meeting the objectives of the Grant as a result of the program's focus being shifted and the impact of the Hialeah Office being closed. The results of further review by the Office of the Commission Auditor will be delivered at a future date.

Cc: Honorable Chairman and Members, Board of County Commissioners
Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
George Burgess, County Manager
Phyllis Tynes-Saunders, Chief Employment Services Bureau, DHS
Maritza Alonso, Director Refugee Services Division, DHS